

EUROPE'S COMING RULERS TO BE SOUND OF BODY

Modern Scientific Ideas and Outdoor Life Are Providing Robust Kings for the Next Generation—The Royal Families of Present Day Marked by Increased Vigor—Origin of Stories to the Contrary



PRINCE OF THE ASTURIAS, INFANTE DON JAIME, PRINCESS MARIE CHRISTINE OF SPAIN

ROYAL families are far less picturesque and entertaining than they used to be. Except for the Hapsburgs and Saxe-Coburgs, who make it a point to supply one sensation a year, rulers are behaving themselves correctly.

There was a time, not so very long ago, when a monarch was apt to be either an invalid or a man of gayety. Alfonso XII, King of Spain, was chronically dying, and so was Frederick III, Emperor of Germany; Louis, King of Bavaria, was insane; the Grand Duke of Luxembourg was bed ridden; Leopold of Belgium, Edward of England and Milosh of Serbia outdid by night as well as by day the most confirmed boulevardier.

Europe now has a tame, domesticated lot of rulers. They lack brilliancy, barring Emperor William II, but at least they no longer act like hoodlums. One of them, Manuel of Portugal, tried it and soon received his due. Even poor little Phu-yi, the microscopic Manchu Emperor, was credited with fathering documents of which a mature statesman would not be ashamed.

If the rising flood of democracy does not take away their opportunities the rulers of the coming generation should be rather remarkable men, at least physically, all statements to the contrary notwithstanding.

It may be that the mental and physical condition of their forebears is responsible for the curious rumors which are being continually circulated concerning heirs to the thrones in Europe. It has been reported that the little Czarovich was suffering from tuberculosis of the knee and would never be able to walk; that the heir to the Spanish crown was deaf if not a deaf mute; that the Crown Prince of Germany showed traces of mental derangement; and that his father was thinking of removing him as his successor; that Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria was being snubbed by the Emperor. Whatever their origin, these rumors have small basis as a rule.

To begin with, Franz Ferdinand, who is likely to become Emperor of Austria-Hungary in the very near future, is now 40 years old and is a tall, handsome fellow with splendid health, a fine lawyer, a man and a wonderful shot. Dr. Blowitz, who had some old grudge against him, only found one damaging story to tell concerning his character. One summer while hunting in Ischl the Grand Duke almost collided with a funeral party. Instead of reining in his horse, he whipped him up and jumped over the coffin while it was being carried by six peasants. If the truth of Blowitz's narrative is admitted, before condemning the Grand Duke on the grounds of sacrilege the question may be asked whether this was not the simplest way to avoid an actual collision with the mourners.

Twelve years ago, when the health of Emperor Franz Joseph gave the Austrian court cause for worry, efforts were made to secure a consort for the pre-emptive. Negotiations were commenced with several royal families whose marriageable daughters would have proved suitable mates. None of the young Princesses under consideration seemed to attract the future Emperor.

Finally he became a frequent visitor at the house of Archduchess Frederick, who had several daughters. The Archduchess instructed one of her ladies in waiting, Countess Chotek, to watch the situation and to do her best to help one of her daughters to capture Franz Ferdinand.

After a rather long visit at the Archduchess's house in the spring of 1900, Franz Ferdinand returned to Vienna, leaving every one convinced that his choice was made.

Only it happened that a careless valet had left behind a few personal trinkets belonging to the Archduke. Among them were a watch chain and locket. The Archduchess did what any woman eager to become an Emperor's mother-in-law would have done. She opened the locket. It contained Sophie Chotek's picture.

On July 1 of the same year the Archduke took the lady in waiting as his morganatic wife.

The Emperor, fearing trouble, obliged his nephew to renounce, not publicly, but before a sort of family council the right of his future children to succeed to the throne of Austria and Hungary.

From the fact that the Emperor had then some misgivings as to his subjects' attitude toward his successor, European gossip has periodically endeavored to frighten the public by announcing a

crisis to take place at the death of the old Emperor. Far from snubbing his nephew and his wife, Francis Joseph has done his best to show them attention. Countess Chotek, elevated to the rank of Princess, is conceded precedence by all the women of the mediocrized houses, and all the Archduchesses have called on her. At a dinner given by the Emperor of Germany Princess Hohenberg sat at

the right of William II., thus being practically recognized as the future Empress of Austria-Hungary.

The Hungarians and Bohemians have manifested through the medium of their representatives in Parliament their desire to see the Princess crowned Queen in Budapest and in Prague.

On several important occasions the Archduke has been delegated by his uncle to represent him. At the time of William II's visit to the Emperor Franz Ferdinand steamed out to Fasana Roads at the head of the Austrian fleet to meet the yacht Hohenzollern on its way to Venice. This amounted to proclaiming the Archduke the actual head of the navy. Last December it was the Archduke who formally opened the session of the Delegations, asserting thereby his imperial prerogative.

Much has been made of the fact that at the time of the last army maneuvers the Emperor delegated Archduke Leopold Salvator to represent him officially and designated as adjutant to Franz Ferdinand Archduke Karl, to whom the succession will pass. It must be said that Franz Ferdinand, who is deeply interested in military matters, had insisted on attending the maneuvers as Colonel of a cavalry regiment so as to make some practical studies on the field.

The main sources of gossip against Franz Ferdinand are very naturally Archduchess Frederick, whom he so cruelly disappointed, and his half-sister, Archduchess Mari, Annunziata, abbess of the Tradrashin, who may eventually play the part of acting Empress and first lady of the Empire, a position to which he was appointed at the death of Archduke Otto. Much of the death of Archduke Otto, who was involved in numberless scandals, financial and otherwise, is attributed by those two sharp tongued women to the future Emperor. The people, however, fancy much more the handsome Franz Ferdinand and his extremely clever wife than young Archduke Karl, whose father had to retire into voluntary exile a few years before his death.

It is very probable that Sophie Chotek will become Empress of Austria, and the Vatican, with which Franz Ferdinand is on very cordial terms, is in favor of releasing the heir apparent from the oath he took at the time of his marriage, when he renounced in behalf of his children all succession rights.

The Czarovich Alexis is a strong little fellow of eight—he was born August 12,

1904—whose favorite diversion in summer is to roam the woods in company with an enormous mujik called Stepan. He picked out Stepan as his personal toy and bodyguard about four years ago and can outdo any infant pest in expressions of peevishness when he is not allowed to take Stepan along.

When the imperial family goes cruising in the yacht Standard along the coast of Finland the Czar and his eldest daughter, Grand Duchess Olga, delight in rowing the rest of the family in a dory. Little Alexis insists on being rowed in his own dory by the faithful Stepan.

At night when Alexis kneels down to say his prayers before the sacred icon he first calls God's blessing upon the head of Stepan. His parents and relatives are taken care of afterward.

The bringing up of this mischievous little boy has been conducted in accordance with the latest scientific theories. His physical strength and his ruddy appearance are the result of life in the open and daily gymnastic exercise. The child hasn't been compelled, as so many royal children were in the past, to lead a secluded life, stifling physically and morally.

A pitiful sight is a royal baby dressed up in court regalia or wearing some military uniform. Although Alexis is Colonel of half a dozen infantry regiments, four regiments of dragoons, one regiment of field artillery, one of railroad engineers and helmet of all the Cossack corps he goes about all the year round dressed like the average American boy of his age.

He also shows the disrespect for officialdom which has made the American boy famous. President Fallières of France, having sent him for Christmas a toy railroad which cost some \$50,000 Alexis hastened the first time he met the French Ambassador to ask: "How is the train man?"

One morning he burst into his father's room and found the Emperor busy with several Ministers. Without any embarrassment he greeted them as he had heard Stepan greet other mujiks: "Good morning, brothers!"

When his father remonstrated with him for calling brothers men much older than himself he apologized and left the room, shouting back as he closed the door: "Good-by, boys!"

Rumors relative to the Czarovich's health generally emanate from the Grand Duke's coterie and the conservative and reactionary parties. The Czar is liberal, but very weak physically and mentally. From the time of his accession to the throne to August, 1904, when Alexis was born, he was hardly ever able to make his will prevail and partisans of the conservative Grand Duke Michael, who would have succeeded him in default of any male progeny, blocked the way stubbornly to the modernization of Russia.

The birth of Alexis was a blow to the Grand Dukes, and they have done their best ever since to create the impression abroad that the Czar's heir would be handicapped physically. When a photograph was taken of the Czarovich carried in a little chair attached to the handle bar

of Stepan's bicycle it was rumored that Alexis had weak legs.

A year ago Grand Duchess Anastasia, who is 11 years old, fell and hurt her knee. The injury was slight, but after a long walk the girl is likely to complain of a pain in her knee. Hence probably the story of tuberculosis of the knee.

In a like manner the diseases of little Don Jaime, Alfonso XIII's second son, are, after being exaggerated, attributed by interested gossip to little Alfonso, Prince of Asturias and heir to the throne of Spain.

Like Alexis of Russia the baby Alfonso and the boy Jaime are the recipients of an excellent scientific and outdoor training. Whoever has watched the two round faced boys paddling in the water on the San Sebastian beach is likely to doubt the tales concerning their wretched health.

Their father was a very weak and puny child, but Queen Christina, his mother, exposed herself cheerfully to the reproach of cruelty by insisting that he be kept outdoors day and night and spend as much of his time as possible on shipboard. Thanks to her courageous defiance of public opinion in years when the night air was considered deadly Alfonso is, though a thin man, a wiry and energetic six footer. He is applying to his two sons the system that counteracted the delicate health bequeathed to him by his Bourbon and Hapsburg ancestors.

The mother of the little Prince, Ena of Battenberg, comes, on her father's side at least, from a family distinguished for superb physique and manly beauty. Little Alfonso has inherited his mother's fair hair, chubbiness and somewhat prominent blue eyes, whereas little Jaime takes after his father with the latter's dark hair, dark eyes, prominent nose and Hapsburg lip.

These two boys are a great source of

discomfort to the Carlist party for they constitute a hold upon the good will of the people for the dynasty. There is not a home in the peninsula, blessed with children that is not imbued with feelings of human sympathy for the little ones and for their youthful parents.

Now as to young Alfonso's infirmities. One year ago little Jaime suffered from enlarged tonsils. Quinsy developed on one side. Such an attack often impairs the hearing and speaking is an impossibility until the abscess is lanced. Hence the information which appeared in a Viennese paper inspired by the Carlist pretender to the effect that "the heir apparent is deaf if not a deaf mute."

As for Frederick Wilhelm, Crown Prince of Germany, he seems to be absolutely free from the physical ailments which proved fatal to Frederick III, and have inconvenienced William II, all his life. It is said in certain quarters that at 30 he is still a little too flippant and lacks dignity. He once applauded in the Reichstag a speech made by a revolutionary member of that body.

Well, for twenty-four years his father has been abused, mostly by the French and English press, for being too youthful. It has been predicted many times that the boyish Emperor would plunge his country into disastrous wars, upset the peace of Europe, etc. Nevertheless

he returned to his father's side waving it aloft in triumph, to the delight and enthusiasm of the people present.

From that time forth little Prince Olaf became an object of interest in Norway, his every prank and every cute remark being chronicled. Deputations arrived from all over Norway to see the little chap, who was overwhelmed with gifts.

At the coronation of his parents it was he, and not the Queen or King, who was the hero of the national festival, and if the people are to-day completely reconciled to the rule of "Mr. King" and "Mrs. Queen"—for that is the way in which the Norwegians address their rulers, declining to use the word "majesty," if they have become one and all loyal subjects of the crown, it is mainly due to the popularity of little Olaf, who has completely won the hearts of the Norwegian people, even of the most ultra-republican. Already two rich Norwegians in dying without issue have bequeathed to him their entire landed property.

He has not one trace of affectation in his composition, is on the most democratic terms of intimacy with the more youthful portion of his future subjects and may be said to have been, according to his father's own admission, the principal factor in firmly establishing Haakon VII. and Queen Maud on the ancient throne of Norway.

Why Crown Prince George should have three years ago renounced the succession to the crown of Serbia in favor of his brother Alexander is matter for much speculation. It was said at that time that he wished to contract a morganatic marriage with a Rumanian woman. Others held that he was planning to join a monastic order. Neither of those conjectures has thus far been proved correct.

Nothing unpleasant has ever been whispered concerning the physical condition of the little Prince Leopold and Charles, sons of King Albert of Belgium, respectively 11 and 9 years old, nor against Prince Humbert, the heir to the crown of Italy.

It was rumored at a time that Princess Juliana, the daughter of Queen Wilhelmina, would not live. The German princes of Reuss and the Duke of Saxe-Weimar, to whom the kingdom of the Netherlands would have reverted had Queen Wilhelmina remained childless, may have had something to do with spreading that misleading information.

Whoever has read the Admiralty report concerning the Prince of Wales's term of service on the battleship Hindustan will realize the absurdity of the reports circulated about the young man's condition. It is declared that he bids fair to excel in stature and intelligence both his father and grandfather.

That the present King of England, who was never very vigorous, is alive to-day has been attributed to the fact that he was a second son and less of a slave to royal functions than his older brother. His life as a sailor imparted to his slight body the vitality it needed.

Thus it would seem that the simpler, freer life led by modern rulers and their sons, their athletic training and their indulgence in outdoor sports are improving the royal families of Europe and

QUAINT PLUM ISLAND AND ITS EASYGOING PEOPLE

The collapse of the boat landing at Point Breeze last Sunday, which resulted in the drowning of three persons, again calls attention to Plum Island and its comfort seeking inhabitants.

Plum Island is opposite Rockaway Point, near the main outlet of that favorite haunt of fishermen Jamaica Bay. It is distinguished for nothing more than sand, a few marshes and an infinitude of fresh air, which comes in breezes that are sometimes gales and blow directly off the ocean, between Rockaway and Manhattan beaches. The island belongs to the Government.

Point Breeze is one of the landing places for the three motorboats that ply on the ferry from Sheepshead Bay to the island, and on busy Sundays several hundred people may be found at Plum Island enjoying a fisherman's holiday.

Possibly 150 houses and tents serve as sleeping places for those who remain over night. They are primitive structures, none more than two stories in height and few more than one. A canalboat, if one does not care to go to extra expense,

serves as well as a home and is fully as ornamental as any of the residences. It is easy enough to establish a residence on Plum Beach, but it is not to be done by the direct method of squatting on Government ground. Neither does one go to Uncle Sam for a permit. If anybody wants to put up a house or a tent there he must apply to the office of the Plum Beach Association, of which Alderman Frank J. Dotzler is the head. To the association he pays ground rent for the privilege of building or pitching a tent and the association attends to all matters pertaining to the administration of public affairs. This, however, is a simple matter, for the only public affairs that one is likely to discover even after a long residence are those which pertain to the running of the ferries—always excepting the payment of the ground rent.

Among the permanent inhabitants of Plum Island are Pete Dubois and Capt. Jack.

Pete—nobody calls him anything else—has accumulated some little substance and owned one of the best cottages on

the beach, which he has turned over to a fishing club of which Commissioner Ennis was one of the original members. Nowadays he finds no greater enjoyment than living in the clubhouse and playing practical jokes with Jake Furst, George Bell and a dozen or more other members who are to be found there any Sunday.

Capt. Jack has invested his substance in a motorboat and utilizes such of his time as he can spare from his principal business of amusing himself in running it.

There are scores of other characters among the few residents and visitors, but no one has yet made the mistake of trying to live anything but the simple life on Plum Island. On a pleasant day a dozen or more are seen at sunrise or sooner in their fishing boats and the less energetic loiter around the beach or take short boat rides. By nightfall every body is back from pleasure and it is rare that any one can be found abroad after 9 o'clock.

And the quality of the living on Plum Beach may be gauged by the fact that even draw poker has been reduced to a harmless proposition by the imposition of a two cent limit.

of Stepan's bicycle it was rumored that Alexis had weak legs.

A year ago Grand Duchess Anastasia, who is 11 years old, fell and hurt her knee. The injury was slight, but after a long walk the girl is likely to complain of a pain in her knee. Hence probably the story of tuberculosis of the knee.

In a like manner the diseases of little Don Jaime, Alfonso XIII's second son, are, after being exaggerated, attributed by interested gossip to little Alfonso, Prince of Asturias and heir to the throne of Spain.

Like Alexis of Russia the baby Alfonso and the boy Jaime are the recipients of an excellent scientific and outdoor training. Whoever has watched the two round faced boys paddling in the water on the San Sebastian beach is likely to doubt the tales concerning their wretched health.

Their father was a very weak and puny child, but Queen Christina, his mother, exposed herself cheerfully to the reproach of cruelty by insisting that he be kept outdoors day and night and spend as much of his time as possible on shipboard. Thanks to her courageous defiance of public opinion in years when the night air was considered deadly Alfonso is, though a thin man, a wiry and energetic six footer. He is applying to his two sons the system that counteracted the delicate health bequeathed to him by his Bourbon and Hapsburg ancestors.

The mother of the little Prince, Ena of Battenberg, comes, on her father's side at least, from a family distinguished for superb physique and manly beauty. Little Alfonso has inherited his mother's fair hair, chubbiness and somewhat prominent blue eyes, whereas little Jaime takes after his father with the latter's dark hair, dark eyes, prominent nose and Hapsburg lip.

These two boys are a great source of

discomfort to the Carlist party for they constitute a hold upon the good will of the people for the dynasty. There is not a home in the peninsula, blessed with children that is not imbued with feelings of human sympathy for the little ones and for their youthful parents.

Now as to young Alfonso's infirmities. One year ago little Jaime suffered from enlarged tonsils. Quinsy developed on one side. Such an attack often impairs the hearing and speaking is an impossibility until the abscess is lanced. Hence the information which appeared in a Viennese paper inspired by the Carlist pretender to the effect that "the heir apparent is deaf if not a deaf mute."

As for Frederick Wilhelm, Crown Prince of Germany, he seems to be absolutely free from the physical ailments which proved fatal to Frederick III, and have inconvenienced William II, all his life. It is said in certain quarters that at 30 he is still a little too flippant and lacks dignity. He once applauded in the Reichstag a speech made by a revolutionary member of that body.

Well, for twenty-four years his father has been abused, mostly by the French and English press, for being too youthful. It has been predicted many times that the boyish Emperor would plunge his country into disastrous wars, upset the peace of Europe, etc. Nevertheless

he returned to his father's side waving it aloft in triumph, to the delight and enthusiasm of the people present.

From that time forth little Prince Olaf became an object of interest in Norway, his every prank and every cute remark being chronicled. Deputations arrived from all over Norway to see the little chap, who was overwhelmed with gifts.

At the coronation of his parents it was he, and not the Queen or King, who was the hero of the national festival, and if the people are to-day completely reconciled to the rule of "Mr. King" and "Mrs. Queen"—for that is the way in which the Norwegians address their rulers, declining to use the word "majesty," if they have become one and all loyal subjects of the crown, it is mainly due to the popularity of little Olaf, who has completely won the hearts of the Norwegian people, even of the most ultra-republican. Already two rich Norwegians in dying without issue have bequeathed to him their entire landed property.

He has not one trace of affectation in his composition, is on the most democratic terms of intimacy with the more youthful portion of his future subjects and may be said to have been, according to his father's own admission, the principal factor in firmly establishing Haakon VII. and Queen Maud on the ancient throne of Norway.

Why Crown Prince George should have three years ago renounced the succession to the crown of Serbia in favor of his brother Alexander is matter for much speculation. It was said at that time that he wished to contract a morganatic marriage with a Rumanian woman. Others held that he was planning to join a monastic order. Neither of those conjectures has thus far been proved correct.

Nothing unpleasant has ever been whispered concerning the physical condition of the little Prince Leopold and Charles, sons of King Albert of Belgium, respectively 11 and 9 years old, nor against Prince Humbert, the heir to the crown of Italy.

It was rumored at a time that Princess Juliana, the daughter of Queen Wilhelmina, would not live. The German princes of Reuss and the Duke of Saxe-Weimar, to whom the kingdom of the Netherlands would have reverted had Queen Wilhelmina remained childless, may have had something to do with spreading that misleading information.

Whoever has read the Admiralty report concerning the Prince of Wales's term of service on the battleship Hindustan will realize the absurdity of the reports circulated about the young man's condition. It is declared that he bids fair to excel in stature and intelligence both his father and grandfather.

That the present King of England, who was never very vigorous, is alive to-day has been attributed to the fact that he was a second son and less of a slave to royal functions than his older brother. His life as a sailor imparted to his slight body the vitality it needed.

Thus it would seem that the simpler, freer life led by modern rulers and their sons, their athletic training and their indulgence in outdoor sports are improving the royal families of Europe and

size, who did not relish the proceeding, he returned to his father's side waving it aloft in triumph, to the delight and enthusiasm of the people present.

From that time forth little Prince Olaf became an object of interest in Norway, his every prank and every cute remark being chronicled. Deputations arrived from all over Norway to see the little chap, who was overwhelmed with gifts.

At the coronation of his parents it was he, and not the Queen or King, who was the hero of the national festival, and if the people are to-day completely reconciled to the rule of "Mr. King" and "Mrs. Queen"—for that is the way in which the Norwegians address their rulers, declining to use the word "majesty," if they have become one and all loyal subjects of the crown, it is mainly due to the popularity of little Olaf, who has completely won the hearts of the Norwegian people, even of the most ultra-republican. Already two rich Norwegians in dying without issue have bequeathed to him their entire landed property.

He has not one trace of affectation in his composition, is on the most democratic terms of intimacy with the more youthful portion of his future subjects and may be said to have been, according to his father's own admission, the principal factor in firmly establishing Haakon VII. and Queen Maud on the ancient throne of Norway.

Why Crown Prince George should have three years ago renounced the succession to the crown of Serbia in favor of his brother Alexander is matter for much speculation. It was said at that time that he wished to contract a morganatic marriage with a Rumanian woman. Others held that he was planning to join a monastic order. Neither of those conjectures has thus far been proved correct.

Nothing unpleasant has ever been whispered concerning the physical condition of the little Prince Leopold and Charles, sons of King Albert of Belgium, respectively 11 and 9 years old, nor against Prince Humbert, the heir to the crown of Italy.

It was rumored at a time that Princess Juliana, the daughter of Queen Wilhelmina, would not live. The German princes of Reuss and the Duke of Saxe-Weimar, to whom the kingdom of the Netherlands would have reverted had Queen Wilhelmina remained childless, may have had something to do with spreading that misleading information.

Whoever has read the Admiralty report concerning the Prince of Wales's term of service on the battleship Hindustan will realize the absurdity of the reports circulated about the young man's condition. It is declared that he bids fair to excel in stature and intelligence both his father and grandfather.

That the present King of England, who was never very vigorous, is alive to-day has been attributed to the fact that he was a second son and less of a slave to royal functions than his older brother. His life as a sailor imparted to his slight body the vitality it needed.

Thus it would seem that the simpler, freer life led by modern rulers and their sons, their athletic training and their indulgence in outdoor sports are improving the royal families of Europe and

size, who did not relish the proceeding, he returned to his father's side waving it aloft in triumph, to the delight and enthusiasm of the people present.

From that time forth little Prince Olaf became an object of interest in Norway, his every prank and every cute remark being chronicled. Deputations arrived from all over Norway to see the little chap, who was overwhelmed with gifts.

At the coronation of his parents it was he, and not the Queen or King, who was the hero of the national festival, and if the people are to-day completely reconciled to the rule of "Mr. King" and "Mrs. Queen"—for that is the way in which the Norwegians address their rulers, declining to use the word "majesty," if they have become one and all loyal subjects of the crown, it is mainly due to the popularity of little Olaf, who has completely won the hearts of the Norwegian people, even of the most ultra-republican. Already two rich Norwegians in dying without issue have bequeathed to him their entire landed property.

He has not one trace of affectation in his composition, is on the most democratic terms of intimacy with the more youthful portion of his future subjects and may be said to have been, according to his father's own admission, the principal factor in firmly establishing Haakon VII. and Queen Maud on the ancient throne of Norway.

Why Crown Prince George should have three years ago renounced the succession to the crown of Serbia in favor of his brother Alexander is matter for much speculation. It was said at that time that he wished to contract a morganatic marriage with a Rumanian woman. Others held that he was planning to join a monastic order. Neither of those conjectures has thus far been proved correct.

Nothing unpleasant has ever been whispered concerning the physical condition of the little Prince Leopold and Charles, sons of King Albert of Belgium, respectively 11 and 9 years old, nor against Prince Humbert, the heir to the crown of Italy.

It was rumored at a time that Princess Juliana, the daughter of Queen Wilhelmina, would not live. The German princes of Reuss and the Duke of Saxe-Weimar, to whom the kingdom of the Netherlands would have reverted had Queen Wilhelmina remained childless, may have had something to do with spreading that misleading information.

Whoever has read the Admiralty report concerning the Prince of Wales's term of service on the battleship Hindustan will realize the absurdity of the reports circulated about the young man's condition. It is declared that he bids fair to excel in stature and intelligence both his father and grandfather.

That the present King of England, who was never very vigorous, is alive to-day has been attributed to the fact that he was a second son and less of a slave to royal functions than his older brother. His life as a sailor imparted to his slight body the vitality it needed.

Thus it would seem that the simpler, freer life led by modern rulers and their sons, their athletic training and their indulgence in outdoor sports are improving the royal families of Europe and

size, who did not relish the proceeding, he returned to his father's side waving it aloft in triumph, to the delight and enthusiasm of the people present.

From that time forth little Prince Olaf became an object of interest in Norway, his every prank and every cute remark being chronicled. Deputations arrived from all over Norway to see the little chap, who was overwhelmed with gifts.

At the coronation of his parents it was he, and not the Queen or King, who was the hero of the national festival, and if the people are to-day completely reconciled to the rule of "Mr. King" and "Mrs. Queen"—for that is the way in which the Norwegians address their rulers, declining to use the word "majesty," if they have become one and all loyal subjects of the crown, it is mainly due to the popularity of little Olaf, who has completely won the hearts of the Norwegian people, even of the most ultra-republican. Already two rich Norwegians in dying without issue have bequeathed to him their entire landed property.

He has not one trace of affectation in his composition, is on the most democratic terms of intimacy with the more youthful portion of his future subjects and may be said to have been, according to his father's own admission, the principal factor in firmly establishing Haakon VII. and Queen Maud on the ancient throne of Norway.

Why Crown Prince George should have three years ago renounced the succession to the crown of Serbia in favor of his brother Alexander is matter for much speculation. It was said at that time that he wished to contract a morganatic marriage with a Rumanian woman. Others held that he was planning to join a monastic order. Neither of those conjectures has thus far been proved correct.

Nothing unpleasant has ever been whispered concerning the physical condition of the little Prince Leopold and Charles, sons of King Albert of Belgium, respectively 11 and 9 years old, nor against Prince Humbert, the heir to the crown of Italy.

It was rumored at a time that Princess Juliana, the daughter of Queen Wilhelmina, would not live. The German princes of Reuss and the Duke of Saxe-Weimar, to whom the kingdom of the Netherlands would have reverted had Queen Wilhelmina remained childless, may have had something to do with spreading that misleading information.

Whoever has read the Admiralty report concerning the Prince of Wales's term of service on the battleship Hindustan will realize the absurdity of the reports circulated about the young man's condition. It is declared that he bids fair to excel in stature and intelligence both his father and grandfather.

That the present King of England, who was never very vigorous, is alive to-day has been attributed to the fact that he was a second son and less of a slave to royal functions than his older brother. His life as a sailor imparted to his slight body the vitality it needed.

Thus it would seem that the simpler, freer life led by modern rulers and their sons, their athletic training and their indulgence in outdoor sports are improving the royal families of Europe and

size, who did not relish the proceeding, he returned to his father's side waving it aloft in triumph, to the delight and enthusiasm of the people present.

From that time forth little Prince Olaf became an object of interest in Norway, his every prank and every cute remark being chronicled. Deputations arrived from all over Norway to see the little chap, who was overwhelmed with gifts.

At the coronation of his parents it was he, and not the Queen or King, who was the hero of the national festival, and if the people are to-day completely reconciled to the rule of "Mr. King" and "Mrs. Queen"—for that is the way in which the Norwegians address their rulers, declining to use the word "majesty," if they have become one and all loyal subjects of the crown, it is mainly due to the popularity of little Olaf, who has completely won the hearts of the Norwegian people, even of the most ultra-republican. Already two rich Norwegians in dying without issue have bequeathed to him their entire landed property.

He has not one trace of affectation in his composition, is on the most democratic terms of intimacy with the more youthful portion of his future subjects and may be said to have been, according to his father's own admission, the principal factor in firmly establishing Haakon VII. and Queen Maud on the ancient throne of Norway.

Why Crown Prince George should have three years ago renounced the succession to the crown of Serbia in favor of his brother Alexander is matter for much speculation. It was said at that time that he wished to contract a morganatic marriage with a Rumanian woman. Others held that he was planning to join a monastic order. Neither of those conjectures has thus far been proved correct.

Nothing unpleasant has ever been whispered concerning the physical condition of the little Prince Leopold and Charles, sons of King Albert of Belgium, respectively 11 and 9 years old, nor against Prince Humbert, the heir to the crown of Italy.

It was rumored at a time that Princess Juliana, the daughter of Queen Wilhelmina, would not live. The German princes of Reuss and the Duke of Saxe-Weimar, to whom the kingdom of the Netherlands would have reverted had Queen Wilhelmina remained childless, may